

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior claims presented in the application.

**1-16. (canceled)**

**17. (currently amended)** An interlabial pad having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, comprising:

an absorbent body for absorbing body fluids;

a surface side sheet and a rear surface side sheet enclosing said absorbent body;

a holding sheet member lapped on the rear surface side sheet, the holding sheet member having bonded portions of the rear surface side sheet provided near each of two longitudinal surrounding ends of the interlabial pad and a pair of laterally opposed unbonded portions located at a rear surface side of the interlabial pad on left and right peripheral side edges near a central area along a longitudinal axis of the interlabial pad; wherein ends of the unbonded portions meet ends of the bonded portions along the peripheral side edges;

a first fingertip insert opening formed by one of the pair of unbonded portions and arranged between the rear surface side sheet and the holding sheet member;

a second fingertip insert opening formed by the other of the pair of unbonded portions and arranged between the rear surface side sheet and the holding sheet member; and

a folding guide element along the longitudinal axis provided to form a convex protruding area linearly and continuously over the entire length of the longitudinal axis when the holding sheet member is pinched via the first and second fingertip insert openings.

**18. (canceled)**

**19. (currently amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, wherein the folding guide element is provided in the absorbent body and is comprised of any of a broken line, a cut line, and a compression line.

**20. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, wherein the interlabial pad has a size between 60 and 150 mm in the longitudinal direction of the longitudinal axis and a size of between 10 and 60 mm in a lateral direction, and the first and second fingertip insert opening each have a width of between 20 and 35 mm provided at a line symmetry position with respect to the longitudinal axis.

**21. (currently amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, wherein a fingertip insert depth of each of the first and second fingertip insert openings is not less than 15mm.

**22. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, wherein the holding sheet member has a size not less than 80% in respect of a length size of the lateral direction of the interlabial pad.

**23. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, wherein the holding sheet member has color, chromaticity and pattern different from those of the opposite side of the interlabial pad to the body side.

**24. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, further comprising a long protruding area formed linearly and continuously over the entire length the longitudinal axis, wherein in using the pad, each fingertip of two fingers of the wearer is respectively inserted into one opening of the first and second fingertip insert openings, and thereafter the pad is folded at the longitudinal axis to be subject to use in a condition in which the long protruding area is further projected.

**25. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 24, wherein the long protruding area is formed by unbonded portions of the holding sheet member provided in proximity to the longitudinal ends of the interlabial pad and folded along the longitudinal axis.

**26. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, further comprising:  
a wrapping container to contain the interlabial pad,  
wherein the interlabial pad is contained such that the pair of fingertip insert openings are positioned in proximity to an unsealed portion of the wrapping container.

**27. (previously amended)** The interlabial pad according to claim 17, further comprising:

28. (canceled)